(b) if so, what are the details thereof stating the racket in the adulteration of Diesel; and

(c) what action has been taken agains. those found guilty and to check the malpractice?

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPTAIN SATISH SHARMA): (a) and (b) A Tank truck suspected to be carryng kerosene was seized by the police at one of the dealer operated IBP retail outlets in Aurangabad while in the process of decanting the product into the underground tank. Police suspect the involvement of IBP operations officer in this case. The case is under police investigation.

(c) The officer has already been put under suspension by the company. As per rules, sales/supplies from the said retail outlet remain suspended since 22-1-1994.

बरौनी तेलशोधक कारखाने को कच्चे तेल की आपूर्ति

2448. **श्री एस०एस० अहलुवालिया** : क्या पेट्रोलियम और प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार ने बरौनी तेल शोधक कारखाने को कच्चे तेल की आपूर्ति बनाये रखने के लिए कुछ ठोस कदम उठाये हैं जिससे कि यह कारखाना अपनी पूरी क्षमता का उपयोग कर सके ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो उनका ब्यौरा क्या है ; और

(ग) यदि नहीं, तो बरौनी तेल शोधक कारखाने को कच्चे तेल की आपूर्ति न किये जाने के क्या कारण हैं ?

पेट्रोलियम और प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (कैप्टन सतीश शर्मा) : (क) से (ग) सरकार ने बरौनी रिफाइनरी को कच्चे तेल की आपूर्ति को बढ़ाने के लिए हल्दिया से बरौनी तक कच्चे तेल की एक नयी पाइपलाइन बिछाने के लिए एक विस्तृत साध्यता रिपोर्ट तैयार करने हेतु अनुमोदन दे दिया है ।

Steps to intensify oil production

2449. SHRI KAMAL MORARKA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) what are the main reasons for tardy progress on the initiatives taken by Government over the last three years to reverse India's sagging performance in crude production;

(b) the number of decisions that have been delayed alongwith the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps that are contemplated to step up the intensity of oil exploration and oil production?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPTAIN SATISH SHARMA): (a) to (c) Govt. have initiated a number of measures to enhance crude production. The short-term measures initiated have already brought in a production gain of over one million tonne, during the current year. The medium term measures such as the development of new fields are expected to add to the production from 1994-95 onwards. All these measures taken together are expected to put indigenous production of crude oil on and upward path from 1994-95 reaching a level of about 44.45 million tonnes by 1996-97.

In addition, Govt. have also adopted following measures to enhance exploration activity:

(1) greater efforts by ONGC and OIL to carry out intensive exploration work;

(2) upgrade the quality of data in the relatively under-explored blocks; and

(3) inviting Indian and foreign companies to bid for exploration blocks.

Parall·l marketing of LPG by P.S.Us.

2450. SHRI KAMAL MORARKA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state.

(a) whether it is a fact that the PSUs have decided to set up joint ventures in